



What Can YOU Do to Prevent Healthcare Fraud?

Presented by: Tami Barrett – Aging Partners

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What is Medicare Fraud?



Intentionally billing Medicare for services that were not received, or billing for a service at a higher rate than is actually justified.

What is Medicare Abuse?



Providers supply services or products that are not medically necessary or that do not meet professional standards.

Examples of Fraud & Abuse

- ✓ Billing for services, supplies or equipment that were not provided
- ✓ Obtaining a Medicare number for “free” services
- ✓ Claims for services that are not medically necessary
- ✓ Using another person’s Medicare card to obtain medical care, supplies or equipment

Medicare Fraud, Abuse, and Errors Affect...

Everyone

- ✓ **Billions** of dollars lost
to improper claims

Beneficiaries

- ✓ Health care services
affected

Taxpayers

- ✓ **Billions** of taxpayer
dollars wasted
- ✓ Medicare trust fund at risk



Three Steps to Prevent Health Care Fraud



1) Protect

2) Detect

3) Report

Step 1: **Protect** Yourself from Medicare Fraud and Abuse



- ✓ Do treat your Medicare card and number like your credit cards.
- ✓ Do watch out for identity theft.
- ✓ Do be aware that Medicare doesn't call or visit to sell you anything.
- ✓ Don't give out your Medicare number except to your doctor or other Medicare provider.
- ✓ Don't carry your Medicare card unless you will need it.

Step 2: *Detect* Medicare Fraud & Abuse

- ✓ Use your **Personal Health Care Journal**
- ✓ Review **Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs)** and other statements:
 1. Services you didn't get
 2. Double-billing
 3. Services not ordered by your doctor
- ✓ Access your Medicare information at www.MyMedicare.gov.

Step 3: **Report** Suspected Medicare Fraud and Abuse



- ✓ Call the provider.
- ✓ Gather information and documentation.
- ✓ **Contact your SMP.**
This is a free and confidential service!



Contact Nebraska SMP

Visit us online: www.dhhs.ne.gov/smp

- For more information

Call Toll-free: 800-942-7830

- To report suspected fraud/abuse
- For training, speakers, and/or materials
- To volunteer with the SMP program